

DETAILED ACTION

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Acknowledgements

4 This action is in response to communications filed 09/15/2011. Claims 1-3, 7-19,
22-27, 29-34, 36, 38-39, 42-49, and 52 are currently pending. The information
6 disclosure statements filed 6/30/2011 and 9/15/2011 have been received and
considered. The supplemental reply filed on 10/19/2011 was not entered because
8 supplemental replies are not entered as a matter of right except as provided in 37 CFR
1.111(a)(2)(ii). The supplemental reply is clearly not limited to placement of the
10 application in condition for allowance.

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Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 09/15/2011 (hereinafter Remarks) have been fully
14 considered. Applicant argues that the combination of cited references does not teach or
suggest the limitation(s): "directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network
16 hub, wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or
community address".¹

18 However, Outlook discloses sending an email message using named personal
distribution lists. For example, Outlook describes the ability to create and name a
20 distribution list (pg. 157). The list may be named "Gliders" (pg. 158-159) and an email
may then be addressed to the group. Regarding the "generic-recipient message",
22 applicant's specification recites:

¹ Remarks, pg. 18 ¶ 1-4

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(pg. 1:22 through pg. 2:4) The vast majority of the digital messaging communication is conducted on a person-to-person basis. For example, one individual sends another individual an email or an SMS communication or one individual initiates a cellular telephone call to another individual. Much more limited are the communication options for person-to-group, person-community, person-to-place or person-to-application communication. **This type of communication is also referred to herein as generic-recipient message, in which the user does not send the message to a specific individual but rather to a group, a community, a location or an application.**

Applying the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification, one of ordinary skill in the art would understand that Outlook's disclosure including sending email to a group address as in at least pg. 158-159 would be an example of sending a generic-recipient message comprising a message sent to a group or community address as recited in the contested claim language. Accordingly applicant's arguments cannot be held as persuasive in this regard.

Applicant further argues that the combination of cited references does not teach or suggest the limitation(s): "determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type".² Applicant's arguments in this regard are persuasive, however, new grounds of rejection are provided below. The balance of applicant's arguments relies on matters addressed above.

² Remarks, pg. 19 ¶ 1-4

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-3, 7-9, 22-27, 36, 38-39, and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Microsoft Outlook 97 (hereinafter Outlook) in view of U.S. 7,171,190 to Ye et al ("Ye"), in view of U.S. 2005/0114453 to Hardt, and further in view of U.S. 6,912,398 to Domnitz.

Regarding claim 1,

78 Outlook teaches a method comprising:

80 directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub, wherein the
generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community
82 address (pg. 86, 157-159, message sending using personal distribution list.);

84 determining predefined attributes of the message, wherein the predefined
attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the
86 message, or content of the message (pg. 86, 157-159, sender of the message is
determined as messages are routed through the server.);

88 directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients
90 (Outlook, pg. 157-159, email distributed based on distribution group
membership.)

92

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

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determining a type of communication medium of the message;

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determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon
98 the determined type;

100 However, Ye discloses:

102 determining a type of communication medium of the message (col. 1:51-53, col.
5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36, message type is determined),

104

determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon
106 the determined type (col. 2:15-20, col. 5:5-13, 56-60, col. 6:34-36, recipient
address determined based on message type).

108

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

110 invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so

would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing

112 techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

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114 Outlook and Ye do not expressly disclose:

116 determining one or more recipients for the message further based at least in part
118 upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the
120 message with stored information related to potential recipients

However, Hardt discloses:

122 determining one or more recipients for the message further based at least in part
124 upon predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of a message
126 with stored information related to potential recipients ([0022], [0068], the
128 message is routed to recipients based on analysis of the title or body of the
message. Rule based processing is used in accordance with recipient addresses
and user account information.).

130 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine the teachings of Hardt with the teachings of Outlook and Ye in
132 order to route messages based on attributes of the message such as the title or the
body to recipients with a specialization in a particular area (Hardt, [0068].).

134 Outlook, Ye, and Hardt do not expressly disclose:

136 directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by
138 assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio
140 frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the
message, to the message; and

142 dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag
144 reader is placed in proximity to the network hub

However, Domnitz discloses:

146 directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by
148 assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio
150 frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the
message, to the message (col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to
col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.), and

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152 dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag
154 reader is placed in proximity to the network hub (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched
156 to a person's PDA based upon RFID location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See
col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

158 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages
160 based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

162 **Regarding claim 22,**

Outlook discloses:

164 an apparatus comprising at least one processor and at least one memory storing
166 computer program code (pg. 86, mail server),

168 wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are
170 configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to at least:

172 direct receipt of a generic-recipient message from one or more communication
174 networks wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a
group or community address (pg. 86, 157-159, message sending using personal
distribution list.);

176 determine predefined attributes of the generic-recipient message, wherein the
178 predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject
of the message, or content of the message (pg. 86, 157-159, sender of the
message is determined as messages are routed through the server.);

180 Outlook does not expressly disclose:

182 determining a type of communication medium of the message;

184 determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon
186 the determined type;

188 However, Ye discloses:

190 determining a type of communication medium of the message (col. 1:51-53, col.
192 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36, message type is determined),
194 determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon
196 the determined type (col. 2:15-20, col. 5:5-13, 56-60, col. 6:34-36, recipient
address determined based on message type).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
198 invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so
would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing
200 techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

202 Outlook and Ye do not expressly disclose:

204 determining one or more recipients for the message further based at least in part
206 upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the
message with stored information related to potential recipients

208 However, Hardt discloses:

210 determining one or more recipients for the message further based at least in part
212 upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the
214 message with stored information related to potential recipients ([0022], [0068],
the message is routed to recipients based on analysis of the title or body of the
216 message. Rule based processing is used in accordance with recipient addresses
and user account information.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
218 invention to combine the teachings of Hardt with the teachings of Outlook and Ye in
order to route messages based on attributes of the message such as the title or the
220 body to recipients with a specialization in a particular area (Hardt, [0068].).

222 Outlook, Ye, and Hardt do not expressly disclose:

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224 directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by
226 assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio
frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the
message, to the message; and

228
230 dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag
reader is placed in proximity to the network hub

232 However, Domnitz discloses:

234 directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by
236 assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio
frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the
238 message, to the message (col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to
col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.), and

240 dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag
242 reader is placed in proximity to the network hub (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched
to a person's PDA based upon RFID location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See
col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
246 invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages
based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

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Regarding claim 36,

250 Outlook discloses a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium carrying one or
more sequences of one or more instructions which, when executed by one or more

252 processors, cause an apparatus to at least perform the following steps:

254 directing storage of information related to potential message
recipients (pg. 86);

256

258 directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub and
determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message,

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wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or community address (pg. 86, 157-159, message sending using personal distribution list.),

wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message (pg. 86, 157-159, sender of the message is determined as messages are routed through the server.);

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

determining a type of communication medium of the message;

determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type;

However, Ye discloses:

determining a type of communication medium of the message (col. 1:51-53, col. 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36, message type is determined),

determining one or more recipients for the message based at least in part upon the determined type (col. 2:15-20, col. 5:5-13, 56-60, col. 6:34-36, recipient address determined based on message type).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

Outlook and Ye do not expressly disclose:

determining one or more recipients for the message further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with stored information related to potential recipients

However, Hardt discloses:

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determining one or more recipients for the message further based at least in part upon the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with stored information related to potential recipients ([0022], [0068], the message is routed to recipients based on analysis of the title or body of the message. Rule based processing is used in accordance with recipient addresses and user account information.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine the teachings of Hardt with the teachings of Outlook and Ye in order to route messages based on attributes of the message such as the title or the body to recipients with a specialization in a particular area (Hardt, [0068].).

Outlook, Ye, and Hardt do not expressly disclose:

directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message; and

dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the network hub

However, Domnitz discloses:

directing dispatch of the message to the one or more determined recipients by assigning recipient Radio Frequency identifiers, associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader associated with a recipient of the message, to the message (col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.), and

dispatching the message when the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader is placed in proximity to the network hub (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched to a person's PDA based upon RFID location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

Regarding claim 25,

Outlook discloses:

wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to direct dispatch of the message by directing dispatch of the message to one or more determined recipients via a communication network (pg. 86, mail server)

Regarding claim 26,

Outlook discloses:

wherein the communication network includes either a data network, a Short Message Service network, a Multimedia Message Service (MMS) network and or a telephony network (pg. 86, data network)

Regarding claim 2,

Outlook discloses:

wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message, that includes either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service, message, an electronic mail message or voice message (pg. 55, 97, email).

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message

However, Ye discloses:

wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message (fig. 4, col. 1:51-53, col. 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

Regarding claim 9,

Outlook discloses:

wherein directing dispatch of the message to one or more recipients further comprises directing transmission of the message to one or more recipients via a communication medium that includes either short-range wireless communication, Internet communication, SMS communication, or MMS communication (pg. 86, 157-159)

Regarding claim 38,

Outlook discloses:

wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message, that includes either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service, (MMS) message, an electronic mail message or voice message (pg. 55, 97, email).

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

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wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message

However, Ye discloses:

wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message (fig. 4, col. 1:51-53, col. 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

Regarding claim 44,

Outlook discloses:

wherein directing dispatch of the message to one or more recipients further comprises directing transmission of the message to one or more recipients via a communication medium that includes either short-range wireless communication, Internet communication, SMS communication, or MMS communication (pg. 86, 157-159)

Regarding claim 7,

Domnitz teaches:

wherein directing dispatch of the message to one or more recipients further comprises directing display of the message on a display (fig. 1-2, col. 4:45-51, abstract, col. 8:10-20.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

Regarding claim 8,

Domnitz teaches:

wherein the display is associated with the radio frequency identifier (col. 5:7:-11, 30-50, fig. 1-2, displays associated with radio frequency identifiers, laptop, pda.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine wherein the display is associated with the radio frequency identifier as taught by Domnitz with Outlook, Ye, and Hardt to provide information to individuals based on their time and location (Domnitz, abstract, 5:30-50.).

Regarding claim 27,

Domnitz teaches:

further comprising a display associated with the apparatus that is configured to, under the direction of the at least one memory and stored computer program code, display a message associated with the Radio Frequency identifiers (col. 5:7:-11, 30-50, fig. 1-2, displays associated with radio frequency identifiers, laptop, pda; col. 4:45-51, col. 8:10-20.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine wherein the display is associated with the radio frequency identifier as taught by Domnitz with Outlook, Ye, and Hardt to provide information to individuals based on their time and location (Domnitz, abstract, 5:30-50.).

458 **Regarding claim 3, and 39,**

Domnitz teaches:

460 wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message at a network hub further
462 comprises directing receipt of a message by a wireless network hub (fig. 1.).

464 It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to
include receiving a generic-recipient message at a wireless network hub with the
466 teachings of Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz since incorporating wireless technology
amounts to applying a known technique to a known device ready for improvement to
468 yield predictable results (e.g. wireless transmission of messages). See MPEP 2141.

470 **Regarding claim 23,**

Domnitz discloses:

472 wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are
474 configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to direct
476 dispatch of the message by directing dispatch of the message to one or more
determined recipients via lower power RF (Domnitz, fig. 1.).

478 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz in order to provide information to
480 individuals based on their time and location (Domnitz, abstract, 5:30-50.).

482 **Regarding claim 24,**

Domnitz discloses:

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wherein the at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor cause the apparatus to direct dispatch of the message directing dispatch of the message to one or more determined recipients by directing dispatch of the message to one or more determined recipients via a digital cellular network (fig. 3. See also col. 7:30-46.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz in order to provide information to individuals based on their time and location (Domnitz, abstract, 5:30-50.).

Claims 10-19, 29-34, 45-49, and 52 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Outlook, Ye, Domnitz, and further in view of U.S. 2005/0149622 to Kirkland et al (hereinafter Kirkland).

Regarding claim 10,

Outlook teaches a method for prioritizing a generic recipient message at a network hub, the method comprising:

directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub, wherein the generic- recipient message is comprises a message sent to a group or community address (pg. 86, 157-159, message sending using personal distribution list.);

determining predefined attributes of the message, wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message (pg. 86, 157-159, sender of the message is determined as messages are routed through the server.);

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

determining a type of communication medium of the message

However, Ye discloses

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518 determining a type of communication medium of the message (col. 1:51-53, col.
520 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36, message type is determined),

522 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so
524 would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing
techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

526 Outlook and Ye do not expressly disclose:
528 determining whether the message has priority based at least in part on the
530 predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with
pre- stored priority information; and prioritizing the message when a
532 determination is made that the message has priority.

534 However, Kirkland discloses:

536 determining whether the message has priority based at least in part on the
predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with
538 pre- stored priority information; and prioritizing the message when a
determination is made that the message has priority (abstract, [0009-0010],
540 priority level of a message is determined according to the subject of the message
and the messages is delivered and displayed to the recipient according to the
542 priority level.).

544 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine determining whether the message has priority based at least in
546 part on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message
with pre- stored priority information; and prioritizing the message if a determination is
548 made that the message has priority as taught by Kirkland with the method of Outlook
and Ye in order to determine message priority based on the subject of the message
550 (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7.).

552 Outlook, Ye, and Kirkland do not expressly disclose:

554 determining to dispatch the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio
556 Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency
tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to
the network hub.

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However, Domnitz discloses:

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562 determining to dispatch the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio
Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency
tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to
564 the network hub (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched to a person's PDA based upon
RFID location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the
566 abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

568 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages
570 based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

572 **Regarding claim 29,**

Outlook teaches an apparatus comprising at least one processor and at least one
574 memory storing computer program code (pg. 86), wherein the at least one memory and
stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause
576 the apparatus to at least:

578 direct receipt of a generic-recipient message from one or more communication
networks wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a
580 group or community address (pg. 86, 157-159, message sending using personal
distribution list.);

582

determine predefined attributes of the received generic-recipient message,

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wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the message, subject of the message, or content of the message (pg. 86, 157-159);

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

determining a type of communication medium of the message

However, Ye discloses

determining a type of communication medium of the message (col. 1:51-53, col. 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36, message type is determined),

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

Outlook and Ye do not expressly disclose:

determine whether the message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with pre-stored priority information;

However, Kirkland discloses:

determine whether the message has priority based at least in part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message with pre-stored priority information (abstract, [0009-0010], priority level of a message is determined according to the subject of the message and the messages is delivered and displayed to the recipient according to the priority level.)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine determining whether the message has priority based at least in

618 part on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message
with pre- stored priority information; and prioritizing the message if a determination is
620 made that the message has priority as taught by Kirkland with the method of Outlook
and Ye in order to determine message priority based on the subject of the message
622 (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7.).

624 Outlook, Ye, and Kirkland do not expressly disclose:

626 determine to dispatch the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio
Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag
628 reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the
one or more communication networks

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However, Domnitz discloses:

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634 determine to dispatch the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio
Frequency identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency
tag reader associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the
636 one or more communication networks (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched to a
person's PDA based upon RFID location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See col.
638 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

640 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages
642 based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

644 **Regarding claim 45,**

Outlook discloses a non-transitory computer-readable storage medium comprising a
646 computer readable storage medium having computer-readable program instructions
embodied in the medium, the computer-readable program instructions comprising:

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648 directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub and
650 determining predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message,
652 wherein the generic-recipient message comprises a message sent to a group or
community address (pg. 86, 157-159, message sending using personal
distribution list.),
654 wherein the predefined attributes comprise one or more of a sender of the
656 message, subject of the message, or content of the message (pg. 86, 157-159);

658 Outlook does not expressly disclose:

660 determining a type of communication medium of the message

662 However, Ye discloses

664 determining a type of communication medium of the message (col. 1:51-53, col.
5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36, message type is determined),
666

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
668 invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so
would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing
670 techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

672 Outlook and Ye do not expressly disclose:

674 directing storage of information related to message priority;

676 determining whether the generic-recipient message has priority based at least in
part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the
678 predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored
information related to message priority;
680

However, Kirkland discloses:

682 directing storage of information related to message priority (abstract, [0009-
684 0010]);

686 determining whether the genetic-recipient message has priority based at least in
688 part on the determined type and on the predefined attributes by comparing the
predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored
690 information related to message priority (abstract, [0009-0010], priority level of a
message is determined according to the subject of the message and the
692 messages is delivered and displayed to the recipient according to the priority
level.)

694 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine determining whether the message has priority based at least in
696 part on the predefined attributes by comparing the predefined attributes of the message
with pre- stored priority information; and prioritizing the message if a determination is
698 made that the message has priority as taught by Kirkland with the method of Outlook
and Ye in order to determine message priority based on the subject of the message
700 (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7.).

702 Outlook, Ye, and Kirkland do not expressly disclose:

704 dispatching the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio Frequency
identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader
706 associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the network
hub.

708

However, Domnitz discloses:

710

712 dispatching the prioritized message when a recipient-assigned Radio Frequency
identifier associated with a radio frequency tag or a radio frequency tag reader
associated with a recipient of the message is placed in proximity to the network
714 hub (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched to a person's PDA based upon RFID
location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract,
716 col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

718 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages
720 based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

722 **Regarding claim 18,**

Outlook discloses:

724 wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub further
726 comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message, that includes either a
Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service, (MMS)
728 message, an electronic mail message or voice message (pg. 55, 97, email).

730 Outlook does not expressly disclose:

732 wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises
determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a
734 Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message

736 However, Ye discloses:

738 wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises
determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a
740 Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message (fig. 4,
col. 1:51-53, col. 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36).

742

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention
744 to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so would be that
the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing techniques for
746 delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

748 **Regarding claim 48,**

Outlook discloses:

750 wherein the directing receipt of a generic-recipient message by a network hub
752 further comprises directing receipt of a generic-recipient message, that includes
754 either a Short Message Service message, a Multimedia Message Service,
(MMS) message, an electronic mail message or voice message (pg. 55, 97,
756 email).

Outlook does not expressly disclose:

758 wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises
760 determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a
762 Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message

However, Ye discloses:

764 wherein determining a type communication medium of the message comprises
766 determining whether the message comprises a Short Message Service, a
768 Multimedia Message Service, electronic mail message, or voice message (fig. 4,
col. 1:51-53, col. 5:4-7, 54-55, col. 6:34-36).

770 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the
invention to modify Outlook to include the teachings of Ye. The motivation to do so
772 would be that the teachings of Ye would be advantageous in terms of providing
techniques for delivering messages with automatic device selection (Ye, col. 1:50-53).

774

Regarding claims 19 and 49,

776 Domnitz teaches:

778 wherein directing receipt of a generic-recipient message at a network hub further
780 comprises directing receipt of a message by a wireless network hub (fig. 1.).

It would have obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to
782 include receiving a generic-recipient message at a wireless network hub with the

784 teachings of Outlook, Ye, Hardt, and Domnitz since incorporating wireless technology
amounts to applying a known technique to a known device ready for improvement to
yield predictable results (e.g. wireless transmission of messages). See MPEP 2141.

786
Regarding claim 11,

788 Kirkland discloses:

790 wherein the step of determining whether the message has priority based on the
792 predefined attributes further comprises determining whether the message has
display priority based on the predefined attributes (abstract, [0009-0010], fig. 8.).

794 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Kirkland with Outlook, Ye, and Domnitz in order to determine
796 message priority based on the subject of the message (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7.).

798 **Regarding claim 12,**

Kirkland discloses:

800 wherein prioritizing the message when a determination is made that the message
802 has priority further comprises prioritizing the display of the message when a
determination is made that the message has display priority (abstract. See also,
804 fig. 8.).

806 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Kirkland with Outlook, Ye, and Domnitz in order to determine
808 message priority based on the subject of the message (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7.).

810 **Regarding claim 13,**

Kirkland discloses:

812 wherein prioritizing the display of the message when a determination is made
814 that the message has display priority further comprises directing display of
816 displaying the message in a prominent position on a display associated with the
hub (abstract, fig. 8.).

818 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Kirkland with Outlook, Ye, and Domnitz in order to deliver and
820 display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

822 **Regarding claim 14,**

Kirkland discloses:

824 wherein determining whether the message has priority based on the predefined
826 attributes further comprises determining whether the message has dispatch
828 priority based on the predefined attributes (abstract. See also, fig. 8. See also
Outlook pg. 97.).

830 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Kirkland with Outlook, Ye, and Domnitz in order to determine
832 message priority base on subject or content (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

834 **Regarding claim 15,**

Kirkland discloses:

836 wherein prioritizing the message when a determination is made that the message
838 has priority further comprises prioritizing the dispatch of the message when a
determination is made that the message has dispatch priority (abstract, fig. 8.
840 See also Outlook pg. 97.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Kirkland with Outlook, Ye, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 16,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein prioritizing the dispatch of the message when a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority further comprises prioritizing the communication medium used to dispatch the message when a determination is made that the message has communication medium dispatch priority (abstract, fig. 8. See also Outlook pg. 97.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Kirkland with Outlook, Ye, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 17,

Outlook teaches:

wherein the step of prioritizing the dispatch of the message if a determination is made that the message has dispatch priority further comprises the step of prioritizing the time of dispatch of the message if a determination is made that the message has time dispatch priority (Outlook, pg. 97, 100, timed delivery options.).

Regarding claim 30,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein the processor is further configured to at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further

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874 cause the apparatus to determine predefined attributes of the received generic-
recipient message and compare the predefined attributes to pre-stored display
876 priority information to determine if the received message requires display
prioritization (abstract, fig. 8.).

878 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message
880 priority base on subject or content (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

882 **Regarding claim 31,**

Kirkland discloses:

884 further comprising a display associated with the apparatus that is configured to,
886 under the direction of the at least one memory and stored computer program
code, display message identifiers to one or more recipients (abstract, fig. 8. See
888 also Outlook pg. 97.).

890 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message
892 priority base on subject or content as well as to display messages according to priority
(Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

894 **Regarding claim 32,**

896 Kirkland discloses:

898 wherein the processor is further configured to at least one memory and stored
computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further
900 cause the apparatus to provide for display prioritization to be chosen from the
group consisting of displaying prioritized messages first in a list of messages,
902 displaying prioritized messages in a new viewable window and displaying
prioritized messages in a highlighted form (abstract. See also, [0051], fig. 6, 8.).
904

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content as well as to display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 33,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein the processor is further configured to at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further cause the apparatus to determine predefined attributes of the received generic-recipient message and compare the predefined attributes to pre-stored dispatch priority information to determine if the received message requires dispatch prioritization (abstract. See also, fig. 8.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content as well as to display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 34,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein the processor is further configured to at least one memory and stored computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, further cause the apparatus to provide for dispatch prioritization to be chosen from the group consisting of prioritizing the time at which messages will be dispatched, prioritizing the communication medium used to dispatch messages and prioritizing the recipients of the dispatched messages (abstract. See also, fig. 8, [0051].).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content as well as to display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 46,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein the directing storage of information related to message priority further comprise directing storage of information related to message display priority, and wherein the determining whether the generic-recipient message has priority further comprise determining whether the generic-recipient message has display priority by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the generic-recipient message to the stored information related to message display priority (abstract. See also, fig. 8. See also Outlook pg. 97.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content as well as to display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 47,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein the directing storage of information related to message priority further comprise directing storage of information related to message dispatch priority, and wherein the determining whether the message has priority further comprise determining whether the message has dispatch priority by comparing the predefined attributes associated with the messages to the stored information related to message dispatch priority (abstract. See also, fig. 8. See also Outlook pg. 97.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to determine message priority base on subject or content as well as to display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

Regarding claim 52,

Domnitz discloses:

further comprising displaying of the message on a display responsive to the radio frequency tag or radio frequency tag reader being placed in proximity to the network hub (col. 5:7-11, email is dispatched to a person's PDA based upon RFID location. See col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3. See col. 4:56-67, col. 5:5-11, the abstract, col. 7:57-67 to col. 8:3, and figs. 1-2.).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to dispatch messages based on a person's location (Domnitz, col. 3:24-37.).

Claim 42-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Outlook, Ye, Hardt, Domnitz, and Kirkland.

Regarding claim 42,

Kirkland discloses:

wherein the directing dispatch of dispatching the message to one or more recipients further comprise directing display of displaying the message on a display associated with the network hub (abstract, fig. 8.).

996 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, Domnitz, and Kirkland in order to deliver and
998 display messages according to priority (Kirkland, abstract, fig. 7, [0009].).

1000 **Regarding claim 43,**

Domnitz teaches:

1002 wherein the directing display of the message on a display associated with the
1004 network hub further comprises fourth directing display of the message, which is
associated with the Radio Frequency identifier, on a display associated with the
1006 network hub, wherein the recipient Radio Frequency identifier is associated with
the radio frequency tag reader (fig. 1, email, PDA, pc, or cell phone display
1008 messages associated with a radio frequency identifier, col. 5:7:-11, 30-50, fig. 1-
2).

1010 It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of
invention to combine Outlook, Ye, Hardt, Kirkland, and Domnitz in order to provide
1012 information to individuals based on their time and location (Domnitz, abstract, 5:30-50.).

1014

CONCLUSION

1016

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ryan Jakovac whose telephone number is (571)270-5003. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lynn Feild can be reached on 571-272-2092. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

1024

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1034

/Ryan Jakovac/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2445

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